

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ADANA 00134 070831Z
ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-11 SSO-00 PA-02 HA-05 /025 W
-----092720 070844Z /20

O 070800Z JUN 78
FM AMCONSUL ADANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1413
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS ADANA 134

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: CASC (ANTAKYA THREE), SOPN, TU, US

SUBJ: CBS PLAN TO INTERVIEW ANTAKYA THREE BREAKS DOWN

1. JUNE 5, 1978, MIKE WALLACE PHONED POST PERSONALLY REQUESTING ASSISTANCE IN DETERMINING WHETHER ANTAKYA THREE WOULD WISH TO BE INTERVIEWED FOR "60 MINUTES." HE STATED THAT TURKISH GOVERNMENT HAD APPROVED VISIT AND THAT, IF AGREEABLE, SHOW'S PRODUCER WOULD ARRIVE ADANA JUNE 9-10; HE AND CAMERA TEAM WOULD COME SEVERAL DAYS LATER. WE AGREED TO IMMEDIATELY ASCERTAIN SITUATION AT PRISON.

2. AFTER CONSULTING WITH EMBASSY AND CONFIRMING WITH PUBLIC PROSECUTOR THAT GOT APPROVAL HAD INDEED BEEN RECEIVED AT THE LOCAL LEVEL, CONSULAR OFFICER ARRANGED SPECIAL VISIT TO GIRLS AND HUBBARD JUNE 6. THEY STATED THAT: A) THEY COULD NOT

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COMMIT THEMSELVES TO GRANT THE INTERVIEW IN ADVANCE; B) THEY WISHED TO BE "PAID" (AN UNSPECIFIED AMOUNT) SINCE THEY UNDERSTOOD HONORARIUMS WERE NORMAL IN SUCH CASES; C) THEY WOULD NEED TO APPROVE ALL QUESTIONS IN ADVANCE. COMMENT: FROM THEIR PRESENTATION OF THESE CONDITIONS AND THEIR COMMENTS OTHERWISE, THE CONSULAR OFFICER INFERRED THAT THEY HAD NOT BEEN ENTIRELY ALEASSED WITH HANDLING OF PREVIOUS WALLACE INTERVIEW FOUR YEARS AGO.

3, PRINCIPAL OFFICER THEN PHONED WALLACE JUNE 6. HE WAS "APPALLED" AT CONDITIONS AND IMMEDIATELY CANCELED PLANS FOR
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INTERVIEW. INTERVIEW, WHILE NEWS, WOULD HAVE ALSO REPRESENTED MAJOR, SYMPATHETIC EFFORT ON PRISONERS' BEHALF. WALLACE LEFT IT SOMEWHAT OPEN THAT THE INTERVIEW MIGHT BE RESCHEDULED SEVERAL MONTHS FROM NOW IF THE PRISONERS CHANGED THEIR MINDS. HE EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR OUR ASSISTANCE.

4. WE ARE INFORMING PRISONERS BRIEFLY BY LETTER JUNE 7 THAT WALLACE FOUND THEIR CONDITIONS UNACCEPTABLE. WE SHALL DISCUSS

THE MATTER WITH THEM AT OUR NEXT PRISON VISIT JUNE 13. WE
THEN PLAN TO SUGGEST THAT THEY AND THEIR FRIENDS IN THE U.S.
ESTABLISH MORE SPECIFIC COMMUNICATION WITH WALLACE'S OFFICE DIRECTLY.
VON DEN STEINEN

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